Response to the Office Action of February 9, 2004

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for translating a message of a first protocol received by a first driver to a second protocol transmitted by a second driver, comprising:

receiving the message from the first driver by a message dispatcher before
transmitting the message to a message handler, wherein the message dispatcher selects the
message handler from a set of one or more message handlers by consulting a database;

converting the message received by the first driver to an independent format; transmitting the message from the first driver to [[a]] the second driver via [[a]] the message handler; and

converting the message received by the second driver in the independent format to the second protocol; where

the first driver and the second driver are located in a vehicle and the first protocol is a vehicular protocol; and

the second protocol is a wireless link.

- 2. (Canceled).
- 3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[2]] 1, further comprising: receiving the message from the message handler by a multiplexer before transmitting the message to the second driver;
- 4. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, wherein the multiplexer utilizes a network configuration unit for at least one of system startup, maintenance, and dynamic reconfiguration.

Appl. No.: 09/687,181

[11403/5]

Response to the Office Action of February 9, 2004

- 5. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising: performing a manipulation on the message in the message handler.
- 6. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 5, wherein the manipulation includes at least one of packet translation [[or]] and interaction with a computer application.
- 7. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, further comprising transmitting the message from the second driver to a third driver
- 8. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 3, wherein the multiplexer is a network multiplexer.
- 9. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[2]] 1, wherein the database is a rules database.
- 10. (Currently Amended) The method of claim [[1]] 7, further comprising transmitting the message from the second driver to the third driver in the second protocol by wireless communication.
- 11. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the first protocol is a Controller Area Network protocol.
- 12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein the second protocol is a Bluetooth protocol.
- 13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, wherein the message received by the third driver is translated back to the first protocol and received by a fourth driver.
- 14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 10, wherein a remote application in communication with the third driver is capable of receiving the message.

Response to the Office Action of February 9, 2004

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14, wherein the remote application is capable of either passively receiving the message or initiating a transmission from the third driver back to the second driver for translation and receipt at the first driver in the first protocol.

- 16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 15, wherein the third driver is unable to communicate with the second driver unless the third driver adheres to predefined transmission rules and transmits messages from only a predefined group of possible messages.
- 17. (Currently Amended) A system for translating a message of a first protocol to a second protocol, comprising:

a first driver <u>adapted</u> to receive the message of the first protocol and convert the message to an independent format;

a message handler adapted to receive said the message from said the first driver;

a message dispatcher adapted to receive the message from the first driver before

transmitting the message to the message handler, wherein the message dispatcher is adapted
to select the message handler from a set of one or more message handlers by consulting a
database; and

a second driver <u>adapted</u> to receive said <u>the</u> message from said <u>the</u> message handler and <u>adapted</u> to convert the message received in the independent format to the second protocol; where

the first driver and the second driver are located in a vehicle and the first protocol is a vehicular protocol; and

the second protocol is a wireless link.

18. (Canceled).

Response to the Office Action of February 9, 2004

19. (Currently Amended) The system of claim [[18]] 17, wherein a multiplexer is adapted to receive the message from the message handler before transmitting the message to the second driver[[;]].

- 20. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 19, wherein the multiplexer is <u>adapted</u> to utilize a network configuration unit for at least one of system startup, maintenance, and dynamic reconfiguration.
- 21. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 17, wherein the message handler is adapted to perform a manipulation on the message.
- 22. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 21, wherein the manipulation includes at least one of packet translation and interaction with a computer application.
- 23. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 17, further comprising a third driver coupled to the second driver.
- 24. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 19, wherein the multiplexer is a network multiplexer.
- 25. (Currently Amended) The system of claim [[18]] <u>17</u>, wherein the database is a rules database.
- 26. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 17, wherein the message is transmitted from the second driver to a third driver in the second protocol by wireless communication.
- 27. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 17, wherein the first protocol is a Controller Area Network protocol.

Response to the Office Action of February 9, 2004

28. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 17, wherein the second protocol is a Bluetooth protocol.

- 29. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 26, wherein the message received by the third driver is translated back to the first protocol and received by a fourth driver.
- 30. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 26, wherein a remote application in communication with the third driver is capable of receiving the message.
- 31. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 30, wherein the remote application is capable of either passively receiving the message or initiating a transmission from the third driver back to the second driver for translation and receipt at the first driver in the first protocol.
- 32. (Currently Amended) The system of claim [[32]] 26, wherein the third driver is unable to communicate with the second driver unless the third driver adheres to predefined transmission rules and transmits messages from only a predefined group of possible messages.
- 33. (Currently Amended) A system for translating a message of a Controller Area Network protocol to a Bluetooth protocol, comprising:
- a first driver <u>adapted</u> to receive the message of the Controller Area Network protocol and convert the message to an independent format;
 - a message handler adapted to receive said the message from said the first driver;
- a second driver <u>adapted</u> to receive <u>said</u> <u>the</u> message from <u>said</u> <u>the</u> message handler and <u>adapted</u> to convert the message received in the independent format to the Bluetooth protocol;
- a message dispatcher <u>adapted</u> to receive the message from the first driver before transmitting the message to the message handler, wherein the message dispatcher is adapted

Response to the Office Action of February 9, 2004

to select the message handler from a set of one or more message handlers by consulting a rules database; and

a third driver coupled to the second driver;

where

the first driver and the second driver are located in a vehicle;

a network multiplexer is <u>adapted</u> to receive the message from the message handler before transmitting the message to the second driver;

the network multiplexer is <u>adapted</u> to utilize a network configuration unit for at least one of system startup, maintenance, and dynamic reconfiguration;

the message handler is <u>adapted</u> to perform a manipulation on the message that includes at least one of packet translation and interaction with a computer application;

the message is transmitted from the second driver to the third driver in the Bluetooth protocol by wireless communication; and

a remote application in communication with the third driver is capable of either passively receiving the message or initiating a transmission from the third driver back to the second driver for translation and receipt at the first driver in the Controller Area Network protocol.